

**CHAPTER NO. 430**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1155**

**By Representatives Langster, Head, Ulysses Jones**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 221**

**By Senator Dixon**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 11, Part 3, relative to requiring professional bondsman to verify accuracy of address of defendant for whom bail has been set.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-11-318, is amended by deleting subsection (c) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(c) Before a bounty hunter takes into custody any person who has failed to appear in court, such bounty hunter shall comply with Section 40-11-401, make a good faith effort to verify the person's address, and present to the office of the appropriate law enforcement officer of the political subdivision where the taking will occur:

(1) A certified copy of the underlying criminal process against the defendant;

(2) A certified copy of the bond or capias; and

(3) Proper credentials from a professional bondsman in Tennessee or another state verifying that the bounty hunter is an agent of a professional bondsman; and

(4) A pocket card certifying that the bounty hunter has completed the training required by this act or, if the bounty hunter is from a state other than Tennessee, proof that such bounty hunter successfully completed an equivalent amount of training in the bounty hunter's home state within the last year.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 11, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

Section 40-11-320. Before employing a bounty hunter to apprehend a defendant, a professional bail bondsman shall make a reasonable effort to verify the defendant's address.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: June 26, 2001

  
JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June 2001

  
DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR